

Burgess wins state's lifetime honor for transportation safety

Board honors several others for their efforts to make transit safer

Vincent M. Burgess of Richmond has received the state Board of Transportation Safety's Lifetime Safety Achievement Award.

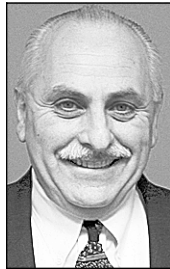
Burgess, a former administrator of transportation safety services at the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, was cited for championing key issues, including tougher DUI laws and child-safety regulations.

In his career, he also served as administrator of the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program and as acting deputy DMV commissioner. Burgess now heads the Virginia Department of Veterans Services.

Among those honored by the board were:

■ Robert P. Crouch Jr. of Richmond for promoting motorcycle safety.

■ Judge Joseph J. Ellis of Spotsylvania County for his efforts to raise young drivers' awareness of the importance of transportation safety.



Burgess

■ Miklos "Mike" Alaksay of the FAA's Richmond Flight Standards District Office for his work as airworthiness safety program manager, conducting safety seminars for 800 pilots and flight staff members annually.

■ The Virginia Association of Realtors in Glen Allen for campaigning to reduce driver distraction among its members who use their autos as mobile offices.

■ Henrico Division of Police for its programs such as "Stop on Red or Stop on Blue," aimed at reducing red-light running and traffic-signal violations; and "Operation Back to School & School Bus Safety Week," educating drivers, students and school employees about safety in school zones.

■ Drive Smart Virginia of Richmond for its "Be Ready, Be Buckled" project to increase the use of safety belts on Interstate 95 between Petersburg and Fredericksburg.

■ The Chesterfield County Public Schools for helping school-bus drivers handle disciplinary problems.

■ The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for its "Lake Watch" citizens' program to monitor boating, swimming and fishing safety.

■ WSLN News Channel 10 in Roanoke for its coverage of teenage driving fatalities in southwestern Virginia.